

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending in the present application. By this Response claims 1 is amended to correct minor informalities. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Amendments are made to the specification to correct errors and to clarify the specification. All appropriate changes pointed out by the Office Action are reflected in the amendments to the specification shown above. No new matter has been added by any of the amendments to the specification.

Also, applicants have submitted a replacement figure labeled Figure 8 as suggested by the Examiner. No new matter has been added by any of the amendments to Figure 8.

I. Specification

The Office Action objects to the specification for containing minor informalities. Applicants respectfully submit the above replacement paragraphs. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

II. Drawings

The Office Action objects to the drawings for containing reference characters not mentioned in the description. Applicants respectfully submit a replacement sheet of Figure 8, which clearly represents the subject matter described in the specification on page 23, line 28 to page 24, line 21. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

III. 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Office Action rejects claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 1 is amended to recite a method in a data processing

system of verifying a categorization of a service in a taxonomy. Furthermore, claim 1 is amended to recite receiving a registration request at the data processing system, the registration request including a service description and an identification of a category within the taxonomy in which the service is to be registered; and registering the service description in the identified category using the data processing system if a result of applying the one or more canonical service description tests is that the service description should be registered in the identified category. Registering the service description in the identified category using the data processing system if a result of applying the one or more canonical service description tests is that the service description should be registered in the identified category provides a functional interrelationship that can only be computer implemented.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is statutory. Since claims 2-10 depend from claim 1, they are statutory as well. Thus, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

IV. 35 U.S.C. § 102, Alleged Anticipation, Claims 1-30

The Office Action rejects claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Cohn et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0010651 A1). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the presently claimed invention was invented on or before March 8, 2000. The attached Declarations under Rule 1.131 provide documentation as to the preparation of the application for the invention on or before March 8, 2000, which predates the applied Cohn reference. In the Declaration, Exhibit A, which is a disclosure detailing the invention, shows a last modified date of March 8, 2000. This date predates the applied references priority date of July 18, 2000. Thus, the applied Cohn reference does not qualify under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). As such, the rejection is improper and should be withdrawn.

V. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over the prior art of record and is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE: February 28, 2005

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